



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 02481.1693

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of: )  
HABERMANN et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1653  
Application No.: 09/664,326 ) Examiner: H. Schnizer  
Filed: September 18, 2000 )  
For: SIGNAL SEQUENCES FOR )  
PREPARING LEU-HIRUDIN BY )  
SECRETION BY E. COLI INTO THE )  
CULTURE MEDIUM )

**MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS**

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY BRIEF**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.193, Appellants submit this Reply Brief to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed January 26, 2004.

**I. Status of the Rejections**

In response to the Appeal Brief filed October 24, 2003, claims 6-9 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Achstetter et al., 110 GENE 25-31 (1992), ("Achstetter") in view of EP 0 448 093 (for which U.S. Patent No. 5,919,895 is the English language counterpart) to Schmid et al. ("Schmid").